OS/N 99408,891

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFF

LEVESQUE ET AL.

Examiner:

B. SISSON

09/508,891

Group Art Unit:

1655

Filed:

JUNE 2, 2000

Docket No.:

9555.96USWO

JUN & ATRONT

Title:

METHOD FOR IDENTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL GENES AND

THERAPEUTIC TARGETS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 24, 2001.

By: Obre a Bailey Name: Debra A. Bailey

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicants have read and considered the Office Action dated January 24, 2001. In the Action, a Restriction Requirement was placed on the application. The Examiner stated that there were four groups, namely: Group I, claims 1-3, 15 and 19; Group II, claims 4-14; Group III, claim 16-18; and Group IV, claim 20. Applicants hereby elect Group II, namely claims 4-14, drawn to a method for functional analysis of a target region in a sequence of interest using cells grown under selective and non-selective conditions with traverse.

In addition, the application contains sequence disclosures that are encompassed by the definitions for nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.821(a)(1) and (a)(2). The Office Action stated that the application fails to comply with the requirements for patent applications containing nucleotide sequence and/or amino acid sequence disclosures. A proper sequence listing in computer readable form will be provided in due course.

A speedy and favorable action on the merits is hereby solicited. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview may be helpful in this matter, please contact Applicants' representative at 612.336.4728.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE